Janis Joplin – Rise Up Singing Fran Samoila

***Objectives***:

1. Students will explore the influence of blues music on the life and musical stylings of Janis Joplin.
2. Students will create a 4-phrase, personalized blues composition.

***Procedures***:

1. Students will read Chapter 1 “Spreading Her Wings” from Janis Joplin – Rise Up Singing by Ann Angel. (This can be read silently by students, aloud by students or aloud by the instructor.)
2. Students will discuss the definition of the blues. (Pg. 5 “Janis liked the black music – blues songs about hard work, loss and pain.”)
3. Students will discuss why Janis Joplin identified with this style of music.
4. Students will explore the internet for brief biographies of blues greats such as Odetta, Bessie Smith, Ma Rainey, Billie Holiday, Big Mama Thornton, Lead Belly, etc. Discuss how their lives affected their music.
5. Students will create a 4 phrase blues lyric drawn from their personal experience. Topics may include, but are not exclusive to, friendship, relationships, family, school, the world around us, (environment, news, etc.) or personal causes or beliefs.
6. Students will use electronic keyboards, instruments, voices or the computer to create a melody for the lyrics, accompanied by a standard blues progression.

Resources

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) for biographies

[www.pianoworld.com/fun/javapiano/javapiano.htm](http://www.pianoworld.com/fun/javapiano/javapiano.htm) for keyboard app.

[www.Zebrakeys.com](http://www.Zebrakeys.com) for blues progression